

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

February 14, 2001 LB 574

ASSISTANT CLERK: Next item, Mr. President, is LB 574, which is a bill introduced by the Transportation Committee. (Read title.) The bill was read for the first time on January 12, referred to the Transportation Committee; that committee reports the bill to General File with no committee amendments.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Bromm, as Chairman of the Transportation Committee, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Mr. President. I am very glad to bring LB 574 forward to the floor. It's a lengthy bill, but it essentially does one thing. It changes the type of document that we will issue to a person who obtains a driver's license or state ID card in the state of Nebraska. It gives the Department of Motor Vehicles the authority to utilize a digital type technology that is currently being used in 45 states around the country. It will allow the department to build a system, I think, that will be greatly beneficial to the state, to the citizens; it will improve the security that will assist the department in protecting the identity of customers and reducing the fraud and duplication that we now see...illegal duplication that we now see in our driver's license and ID card area. It will allow the department to provide increased customer service, also, through the use of established and secure technologies that are being used in other states. It calls for an implementation date of July 1, 2004, or earlier, at the discretion of the director of DMV. The director assured us in our hearing that...that she feels that the system can be in place in early to mid 2003. This is a very large project and we could see unforeseen delay, I'm sure, in implementing the technology. But we certainly...we certainly hope not. For my part, I don't think this can get done too quickly. We had testimony, for example, from Lincoln Police Chief Tom Casady, who gave us some examples of...in fact, he had a huge, huge box of duplicate ID cards or drivers' licenses they had confiscated. Of course, this is not an uncommon thing, when you have a college town, that there will be a fair amount of attempt at duplication. And with the computers that we have and so forth, and the skills that young people have with computers, it is not